

Index to 2018 Congressional Arts Handbook Facts and Figures At Your Fingertips

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2018 Congressional Arts Handbook.

We encourage Congress to

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Handbook
with greater
details and
facts:

<p>Issue 1</p>	<p>Continue bipartisan support with a budget of \$155 million for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in the FY 2019 Interior Appropriations bill to help preserve access to the cultural, educational, and economic benefits of the arts to advance creativity and innovation in communities across the United States.</p>	<p>3-5</p>
<p>Issue 2</p>	<p>Appropriate \$30 million for the Assistance for Arts Education (AAE) programs in the FY 2019 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill. The Assistance for Arts Education program is authorized under Title IV of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).</p>	<p>6-7</p>
<p>Issue 3</p>	<p>Strengthen equitable access to arts education through the Well-Rounded Education provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully fund (\$1.6 billion) the Student Support & Academic Enrichment Grants under Title IV, Part A. • Make explicit the opportunity for the arts to help achieve Title I objectives. • Thoroughly implement the professional development opportunities for arts educators and school leaders in Title II and the expanded STEM program eligibility for the arts in Title IV, Part A. • Fully fund (\$1.1 billion) the 21st Century Community Learning Centers after-school program. • Fund the Assistance to Arts Education program at \$30 mil, as outlined in a separate issue brief. 	<p>8-9</p>
<p>Issue 4</p>	<p>Strengthen access to higher education in the arts through reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts to improve the affordability and accessibility of higher education for all students. • Oppose elimination of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs • Oppose inclusion of provisions that allow higher education institutions to vary their financial aid based on future earning potential. • Ensure for-profit colleges, a substantial number of which offer arts degrees, are properly monitored to reduce their incentive to maximize profits over student success. 	<p>10-11</p>

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<p>Issue 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstate and expand incentives for charitable giving by enacting a universal charitable deduction available to all taxpayers; and Ensure that further tax policy changes will protect nonprofit nonpartisanship and strengthen the capacity of the arts sector to support communities. 	<p>12-13</p>
<p>Issue 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enact the Artist-Museum Partnership Act (H.R. 1830, S. 931), which would allow artists to deduct the fair market value of their work when they donate it to charitable collecting institutions. <p>Maintain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → the qualified performing artist tax deduction; → artist eligibility in the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program; → the income tax exemption for private activity bonds, often employed to finance cultural infrastructure projects that benefit the public. Reinstate deductions for unreimbursed employee business expenses. Preserve the Historic Tax Credit, which has saved over 42,000 buildings that form the historic fabric of our nation. 	<p>14-15</p>
<p>Issue 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support full funding for the Office of Museum Services (OMS) within the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Sign appropriations letters being circulated by Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) and by Representatives Tonko (D-NY), Lance (R-NJ), McKinley (WV), and Slaughter (D-NY). Enact the Museum and Library Services Act of 2017 (S.2271), which would reauthorize IMLS. 	<p>16-17</p>
<p>Issue 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain current funding levels of \$445 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Fully fund public media interconnection (\$55 million). 	<p>18-19</p>
<p>Issue 9</p>	<p>Co-sponsor the CREATE Act (S.661 and H.R. 1649) in order to invest in the country's workforce and creative economy; to recognize artists, entrepreneurs, and nonprofit arts organizations as contributors to the small business community; and support the creative economy through federal programs and actions.</p>	<p>20-21</p>

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<p>Issue 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate \$115 million to the Office of Citizen Exchanges within the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs within the FY 2019 State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill. • Direct the State Department to dedicate increased resources to, and increase operational capacity within, the Cultural Programs Division to strengthen its ability to oversee grants and programs. Despite increases overall for the Office of Citizen Exchanges-the Cultural Programs Department is funded at lower levels now than five years ago, including competitively awarded programs and those run by the State Department. • Encourage the State Department to evaluate and publicly report on the impact, value, and success of arts diplomacy as part of its strategies to build cross-cultural understanding. 	<p>22-23</p>
<p>Issue 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-introduce and enact the Arts Require Timely Service (ARTS) provision, which will require U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to reduce the total processing time for petitions filed by, or on behalf of, nonprofit arts-related organizations. • Take steps, in cooperation with the Administration, to make immediate improvements at USCIS and State Department so that artist visa processing will be accessible, reliable, and efficient. 	<p>24-25</p>
<p>Issue 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support programs within the Administration for Community Living (ACL) included in the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016 that provide access to creative arts therapies and artist-directed activities for well elderly and individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias. • Support research funding for creative arts therapies and arts in health programs within federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within the Department of Health and Human Services as well as the Institute for Education Sciences within the Department of Education. • Ensure that any healthcare legislation enacted preserves access to affordable healthcare coverage for artists and other creative occupations. 	<p>26-27</p>

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<p>Issue 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support H.R. 102, Expanding Care for Veterans Act, sponsored by Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA) to improve access to evidence-based complementary alternative treatments for veterans, including creative arts therapies. • Support continued funding through the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense for creative arts therapies services and artist-directed programs for veterans and active military. 	<p>28-29</p>
<p>Issue 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enact the Saving Transit Art Resources (STAR) Act to reinstate flexibility and allow transit authorities to incorporate art into federally-funded transit projects and facilities. 	<p>30-31</p>
<p>Issue 15</p>	<p>House Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) and Ranking Member Jerry Nadler (D-NY) have called on the committee to address music licensing during the 115th Congress. With laws that predate World War I, music licensing is woefully outdated and in need of modernization to reflect the digital era and to ensure that all music creators are paid fairly for their work.</p>	<p>32</p>
<p>Issue 16</p>	<p>Overturn the FCC's "Restoring Internet Freedom" Order and restore net neutrality protections by using the Congressional Review Act (CRA) in order to s preserve an open Internet where artists and creative entrepreneurs can reach potential audiences, build businesses, and contribute to culture.</p>	<p>33-34</p>
<p>Issue 17</p>	<p>It is essential that the FCC protect wireless microphones and other devices used by performing arts entities that provide valuable public service. Congress should urge the FCC to provide licenses and geo-location database protection to preserve nonprofit performing arts and education operations and their financial investments in technical equipment.</p>	<p>35-36</p>